

# Rama Dollars spending still undecided

By Marie-Lauren Gregoire

SIX NATIONS – A three hour public meeting at Oliver M. Smith Elementary School last Wednesday resulted in a quasi-decision on the Rama Dollars spending. Seven councillors and 100 community members gathered at O.M. Smith and resolved to select a committee to manage the funds.

"There's five areas: health, education, economic development, cultural development and community development," Councillor Roger Jonathan clarified at the meeting's start.

Councillor Dave General emphasized the direction the spending should take. "With the government fiduciary responsibility and the



*Barry Hill questions councillors about the Rama Fund at public meeting last Wednesday.*

agreements for health, education...we would not suggest that any of the money subsidize what the government is obligated to fund," explained General. "In no way do we want to let the government off the hook with this 19 or 20 million dollars."

The Casino Rama Funds balance is now closer to \$15 million because council allocated \$5.3 million since the monies were received in July

last year. Council distributed a summary of funds received, interest earned and the allocation.

Council distributed \$500,000 each to the Iroquois Lodge deficit and Trust Case legal fees. Councillors decided last year to loan \$1,000,000 to pay off the Grand River Mills creditors.

Council allocated \$2,000,000 to the Community Centre and \$1,000,000 to a health

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